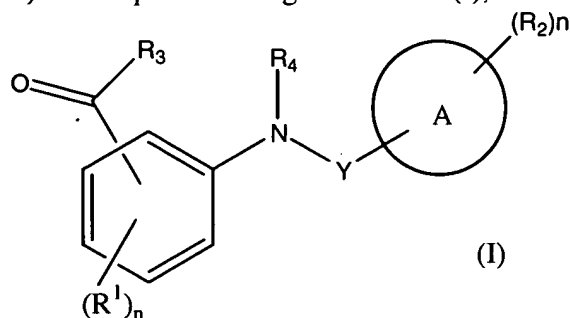


**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims, so that the following list is a clean version of the pending claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound having the formula (I),

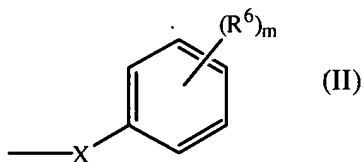


a N-oxide form, stereochemical isomer, racemic mixture, salt, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof,

wherein

A is aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, nitro, alkyl, alkyloxy, or a radical of formula (II),



R<sup>2</sup> represents alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, R<sup>8</sup>-O-, R<sup>8</sup>-S-, R<sup>8</sup>-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=S)-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=NH)-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=NCN)-, R<sup>8</sup>-NH-, (R<sup>8</sup>)<sub>2</sub>-N-, HO-C(=O)-, NH<sub>2</sub>-C(=O)-, NH<sub>2</sub>-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, NH<sub>2</sub>-C(=S)-, NH<sub>2</sub>-C(=NH)-, NH<sub>2</sub>-C(=NCN)-, R<sup>8</sup>-NR<sup>4</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>8</sup>-NR<sup>4</sup>-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, R<sup>8</sup>-O-C(=O)-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=O)-NR<sup>4</sup>-, R<sup>8</sup>-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NR<sup>4</sup>-, R<sup>8</sup>-C(=O)-O-, R<sup>8</sup>-S-CH<sub>2</sub>- or R<sup>8</sup>-O-CH<sub>2</sub>-C(=O)-;

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

$R^6$  is hydrogen, amino,  $R^7$ -C(=O)-,  $R^8$ -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=S)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=NH)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=NCN)-NH-,  $R^8$ -O-C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -O-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -alkanediyl-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, aryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, aryl-alkenediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heteroaryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, cycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH- or substituted alkyl ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from amino,  $R^7$ -C(=O)-,  $R^8$ -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=S)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=NH)-NH-,  $R^8$ -C(=NCN)-NH-,  $R^8$ -O-C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -O-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-,  $R^8$ -alkanediyl-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, aryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heteroaryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, cycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH- and heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-;

$R^7$  represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

$R^8$  represents alkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

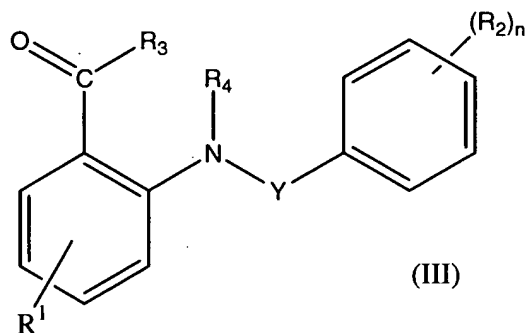
Y represents alkanediyl, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -C(=NH)-, -C(=NCN)-, -S(=O)-, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, -C(=O)-CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, -C(=O)-NH- or -alkenediyl-C(=O)-;

X is a direct bond, -O-, -S-, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, -O-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-O-, -NH-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -C(=NH)-, -C(=NCN)-, -O-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-O-, -NH-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-NH- or alkanediyl;

m and n are each independently zero, one or two; and

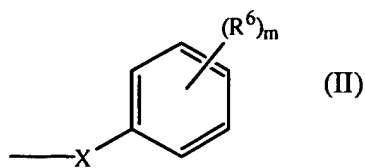
p is an integer from 1 to 4[[:]].

2. (currently amended) A compound having the formula (III),



a N-oxide form, a stereochemical isomer, racemic mixture, salt, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof, wherein

$R^1$  represents halogen, hydrogen or a radical of formula (II),



$R^2$  represents alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl,  $R^8-O-$ ,  $R^8-S-$ ,  $R^8-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $R^8-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-C(=S)-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NH)-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NCN)-$ ,  $R^8-NH-$ ,  $(R^8)_2-N-$ ,  $HO-C(=O)-$ ,  $NH_2-C(=O)-$ ,  $NH_2-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $NH_2-C(=S)-$ ,  $NH_2-C(=NH)-$ ,  $NH_2-C(=NCN)-$ ,  $R^8-NR^4-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-NR^4-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $R^8-O-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-C(=O)-NR^4-$ ,  $R^8-S(=O)_2-NR^4-$  or  $R^8-C(=O)-O-$ ;

$R^3$  represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

$R^4$  represents hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

$R^6$  is hydrogen, amino,  $R^7-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=S)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NH)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NCN)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-O-C(=O)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-O$ -alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ,  $R^8$ -alkanediyl- $S(=O)_2-NH-$ , aryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ,

heteroaryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ , cycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ,

heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$  or substituted alkyl ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from amino,  $R^7-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=S)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NH)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-C(=NCN)-NH-$ ,  $R^8-O-C(=O)-NH-$ ,

$R^8-O$ -alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ,  $R^8$ -alkanediyl- $S(=O)_2-NH-$ ,

aryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ , heteroaryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ,

cycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$  and heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ ;

$R^7$  represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

$R^8$  represents alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

$Y$  represents alkanediyl,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=S)-$ ,  $-C(=NH)-$ ,  $-C(=NCN)-$ ,  $-S(=O)-$ ,  $-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $-C(=O)-CH_2-O-$ ,  $-C(=O)-O-$ ,  $-C(=O)-(CH_2)_p-$ ;

$X$  is a direct bond,  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $-O-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $-S(=O)_2-O-$ ,  $-NH-S(=O)_2-$ ,

$-S(=O)_2-NH-$ ,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=S)-$ ,  $-C(=NH)-$ ,  $-C(=NCN)-$ ,  $-O-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=O)-O-$ ,  $-NH-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=O)-NH-$  or alkanediyl;

$m$  and  $n$  are each independently zero, one or two; and

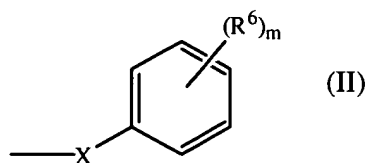
$p$  is an integer from 1 to 4[;].

3. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein Y is -C(=O)-, or -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-.

4. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein X is  $[[a]]$  -NH-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -NH-C(=O)-, or -C(=O)-NH-.

5. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein R<sup>2</sup> is halogen, bromo, chloro, alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents being in meta or para position; and n is 1.

6. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein R<sup>1</sup> is formula (II),



each R<sup>6</sup> is independently R<sup>7</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>8</sup>-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, or R<sup>8</sup>-C(=O)-NH-, said substituents R<sup>6</sup> are adjacent; in meta and para positions, or in ortho and meta positions; m is 2,

R<sup>7</sup> is hydroxy, or alkyloxy;

R<sup>8</sup> is aryl substituted with one halogen, bromo, chloro alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents in meta or para position.

7. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claim~~  $[[s]]$  1 ~~to 6~~, wherein said compound is a monomer.

8. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claim~~  $[[s]]$  1 ~~to 6~~, wherein said compound is a dimer.

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) ~~A method The use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament capable of inhibiting the entry process of the HIV virus into a mammalian host cell, comprising administering to a mammal a medicament, wherein said medicament comprises a compound as claimed in claim 1.~~

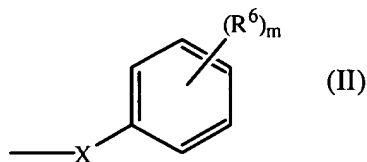
11. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of ~~an active ingredient~~ a compound as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 8~~ and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

12. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein Y is  $-C(=O)-$ , or  $-S(=O)_2-$ .

13. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein X is  $-NH-S(=O)_2-$ ,  $-S(=O)_2-NH-$ ,  $-NH-C(=O)-$ , or  $-C(=O)-NH-$ .

14. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein  $R^2$  is halogen, bromo, chloro, alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents being in meta or para position; and n is 1.

15. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein  $R^1$  is formula (II),



each  $R^6$  is independently  $R^7-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$ , or  $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$ , said substituents  $R^6$  are adjacent; in meta and para positions, or in ortho and meta positions; m is 2,

$R^7$  is hydroxy, or alkyloxy;

$R^8$  is aryl substituted with one halogen, bromo, chloro alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents in meta or para position.

16. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein said compound is a monomer.

17. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein said compound is a dimer.
18. (new) A method of inhibiting the entry process of the HIV virus into a mammalian host cell, comprising administering to a mammal a medicament, wherein said medicament comprises a compound as claimed in claim 2.
19. (new) A pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 2 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.